Amendments to the Specification

On page 18, please delete the paragraph encompassing lines 15-29, and substitute therefore the following paragraph.

1. Sample Preparation:

The biological sample (e.g., especially a sample containing DNA or RNA) can be isolated by any of a variety of means known to those skilled in the art. For instance, blood samples can be taken from one or more individuals. High molecular weight DNA can be prepared by using ~~Triton X-100~~ TRITON® X-100 (alkylaryl polyether alcohol) followed by Proteinase K and RNAse treatment (see, e.g., Bell et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 78, 5759-5763 (1981)). In vitro amplification of the DNA template then can be carried out(if necessary or desired), for instance, using PCR or isothermal strand displacement amplification. In particular, it is desirable that the primers used for PCR conform as much as is practicable to accepted parameters of favorable PCR primer design(e.g., as set for the in Taylor et al., Methods Mol. Biol., 70, 273-278 (1997)). "Amplified" means that the many accurate DNA copies are made from primary DNA sample. This amplified DNA will be referred to as "sample". Desirably the DNA sample is rendered single stranded prior to use in the methods and/or devices of the invention by any appropriate means, e.g., heating, selective degradation of a single strand, etc.